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Signature Cheryl Fisher

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

First Named Inventor: Haruo Kodama et al.

Conf. No.: 2837

Appln. No.: 09/652,090

Filing Date: August 31, 2000

Title: HYDRAULIC DRIVE APPARATUS

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Group Art Unit: 3745

Examiner: F. D. Lopez

Attorney Docket No.: 9369-51US  
(T37-124467M/TH)

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c)(1) AND §1.97(e)(1)**

Enclosed are copies of each of the documents listed on the attached Information Disclosure Citation Form(s) PTO/SB/08A and/or B, which may be material to the patentability of this application and/or for which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.56.

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I hereby certify that each document cited in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication (copy enclosed) dated October 21, 2003 from the European Patent Office in counterpart European Application No. EP 00 11 8896 not more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement.

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It is respectfully requested that this Information Disclosure Statement and the documents listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A and/or B be considered and acknowledged by the Examiner in connection with the above-identified patent application, be made of record therein, and that the listed document(s) be cited in the issued patent.

Respectfully submitted,

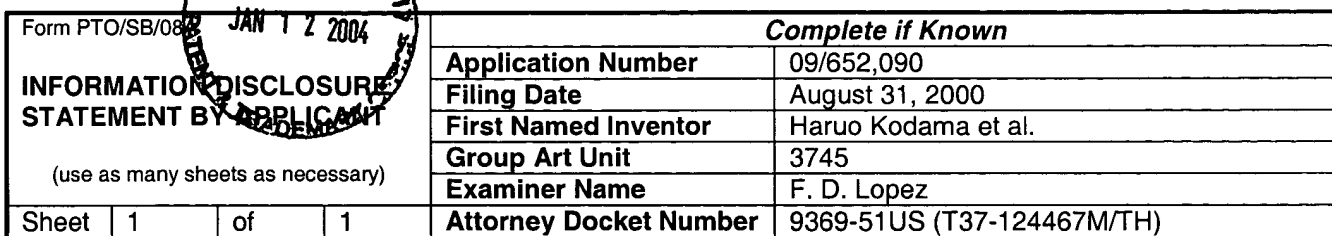
Haruo Kodama et al.

January 7, 2004  
(Date)

Richard A. Woldin  
Richard A. Woldin  
Attorney/Agent for Applicant(s)  
Registration No. 39,879  
Direct Dial: 215-965-1296  
E-Mail: [rwoldin@akingump.com](mailto:rwoldin@akingump.com)

Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP  
One Commerce Square  
2005 Market Street, Suite 2200  
Philadelphia, PA 19103  
Telephone No.: 215-965-1200  
Fax No.: 215-965-1210

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Enclosures

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